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Contact: Katie Betta (850) 488-1450

Statement By Florida House Speaker Dean Cannon Regarding A Federal Judge Declaring Portions Of The Federal Health Care Reform Law Unconstitutional

"U.S. District Judge Henry Hudson's ruling today is an important step in the legal challenge questioning the constitutionality of the federal health care reform legislation passed earlier this year.

"This ruling reinforces the fundamental Constitutional principle that Congress' powers are limited. In particular, Congress cannot regulate non-activity—that is, the decision not to buy health insurance—under the guise of its authority over interstate commerce. It is not the proper role of the federal government to mandate citizens to purchase health insurance they don't want.

"I remain hopeful and confident that the entire law will ultimately be found unconstitutional and am supportive of Florida's continuing involvement in the legal challenges to this legislation that will protect our state sovereignty and the rights of our citizens."